

RULES AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

DATE: December 29, 2009

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:37 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDING MEMBERS

Robert Lutz, Chairman
Monroe Gray
Marilyn Pfisterer
Lincoln Plowman
Joanne Sanders

ABSENT MEMBERS

Bob Cockrum
Angela Mansfield
Barbara Malone

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 485, 2009 - reappoints Jerry Cosby to the Cable Franchise Board
"Do Pass As Amended" Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 486, 2009 - reappoints Dean T. Farmer to the Cable Franchise Board
"Do Pass As Amended" Vote: 5-0

RULES AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Rules and Public Policy Committee of the City-County Council met on Tuesday, December 29, 2009. Chairman Robert Lutz called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. with the following members present: Monroe Gray, Marilyn Pfisterer, Lincoln Plowman, and Joanne Sanders. Bob Cockrum, Angela Mansfield and Barbara Malone were absent.

Chairman Lutz asked all Councillors to introduce themselves and indicate which area of the County they represent.

PROPOSAL NO. 485, 2009 - reappoints Jerry Cosby to the Cable Franchise Board

Councillor Plowman made the following motion:

Mr. Chairman:

I respectfully move that Proposal Nos. 485 and 486, 2009 be amended by replacing the name of the board as introduced in the proposals as "Cable Franchise Board," to the proper name of "Telecom and Video Services Agency Board" in all instances where it occurs, including the digest.

Councillor Sanders seconded the motion, and Proposal Nos. 485 and 486, 2009 were amended by a vote of 5-0.

Chairman Lutz stated that this appointment will be for two years and he believes Mr. Cosby was appointed to finish out a vacant term. He asked Mr. Cosby his vision for the board. Mr. Cosby said that since the state has taken over most of the responsibility, he views this as a tool for visitors to the city to get a snapshot of the city, as well as a tool over the Internet to entice business and residents to the community. He said that they are looking at some grant opportunities to improve technology and become even more visible. He added that the board is still receiving some complaints, even though that function was transferred to the state, and they continue to handle those complaints to the best of their ability.

Chairman Lutz asked about attendance records. Mr. Cosby said that he does not believe he has missed any meetings. Chairman Lutz asked if he is a resident of the County. Mr. Cosby answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Sanders moved, seconded by Councillor Pfisterer, to send Proposal No. 485, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass As Amended" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 486, 2009 - reappoints Dean T. Farmer to the Telecom and Video Services Agency Board

Chairman Lutz asked if Mr. Farmer serves as the chairman of the board. Mr. Farmer responded in the affirmative and said that he spends about 10 hours a week on board business, and has worked with government and educational programming for many years. Chairman Lutz asked what Mr. Farmer sees as the vision of the board. Mr. Farmer said that he sees the Telecom and Video Services Agency as the voice of the city of Indianapolis. He said that the board would like to do more with regard to economic development, but the funding was put on hold earlier this year, and until more funds open up in 2010, that aspect is on hold. He added that they have a very far reach through the Internet with Granicus and AT&T technology, and they hope to continue to increase services. He said that they are working with the Educational Television Channel (ETC) to get them up and running and plugged into the AT&T network. He said that the Telecom and Video Services Agency is actually responsible for four channels, including the educational and government channels.

Councillor Pfisterer moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman, to send Proposal No. 486, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass As Amended" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Lutz, Chairman

RL/ag